

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/001455

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61L27/38 A61L27/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, EMBASE, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 756 350 A (HUANG DAVID ET AL) 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) column 2, line 61 - column 3, line 14 column 5, line 38 - line 59	1-30
Y	US 6 174 333 B1 (KADIYALA SUDHAKAR ET AL) 16 January 2001 (2001-01-16) column 3, line 32 - line 45	1-30
Y	WO 02/47557 A (PEARSON RICHARD ; UNIV NOTTINGHAM (GB); SHAKESHEFF KEVIN (GB)) 20 June 2002 (2002-06-20) page 3, paragraphs 2,3; claims 1,8 -/-	1-30

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	CHEN Y-S ET AL: "Peripheral nerve regeneration using silicone rubber chambers filled with collagen, laminin and fibronectin" BIOMATERIALS, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS BV., BARKING, GB, vol. 21, no. 15, August 2000 (2000-08), pages 1541-1547, XP004204628 ISSN: 0142-9612 page 1542, column 1, paragraph 2 -----	1-30
A	US 6 171 610 B1 (VACANTI CHARLES A ET AL) 9 January 2001 (2001-01-09) column 2, line 59 - column 3, line 19 -----	1-30
A	HENTZ V R ET AL: "The nerve gap dilemma: a comparison of nerves repaired end to end under tension with nerve grafts in a primate model." THE JOURNAL OF HAND SURGERY. MAY 1993, vol. 18, no. 3, May 1993 (1993-05), pages 417-425, XP009033626 ISSN: 0363-5023 the whole document -----	1-30

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claims 26-30 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the product.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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			US 5700688 A	23-12-1997
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			AU 3862499 A	16-11-1999
			EP 1076533 A1	21-02-2001
			JP 2002512842 T	08-05-2002
			WO 9955252 A1	04-11-1999
			US 2004101518 A1	27-05-2004